

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of October 8, 2008 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 14 is amended to omit recitation of the "training text characters" and to specify that the segment of digital ink is written by an optically imaging pen on a surface printed with tags, each tag encoding data on an identity of the surface associated with a digital description of the surface and on the respective location of that tag on the surface, the digital ink being generated by associating the digital description with the data encoded by the tags optically imaged by the pen during said writing;. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraphs [011]-[016] of the present specification; and

dependent claims 17-27 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application, nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 14, and claims 17-27 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Ikebata, Gierhart, Schwartz and Parthasarathy either taken alone or in view of one another, because each of these cited references merely disclose digitizing tablets and like input devices for capturing handwriting (see col. 3, line 49-col. 4, line 9 of Ikebata; abstract of Gierhart; col. 5, lines 17-45 of Schwartz; and col. 2, lines 40-60 Parthasarathy), and therefore do not teach or suggest a pen-based computing system having an optically imaging pen and a surface printed with coded tags for generating digital ink, as is in the claimed invention.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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